

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A datagram relaying apparatus comprising:

a plurality of protocol terminating units; and

a destination determining processor which comprises:

DO NOT ENTER
JP
3/7/05

a path selecting section ~~which determines~~ to determine a transfer destination route for ~~each stream identifier~~ of a stream of packets received from any of said protocol terminating units based on a combination of a stream identifier and a multi-path identifier associated with the received stream of packets, wherein said path selecting section ~~determines~~ is configured to determine whether ~~or not~~ transfer of said received stream of packets to said transfer destination route is in an inhibition state, and ~~selects~~ select another transfer destination route when the transfer of the ~~packet~~ stream of packets to said transfer destination route is in the inhibition state.

2. (original) A datagram relaying apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said path selecting section determines said transfer destination route or said another transfer destination route based on a load distribution ratio previously set for each said transfer destination route.

3. (previously presented) A datagram relaying apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said path selecting section manages a stream count being currently allocated and a maximum stream count to be allocated, for each said transfer destination route, and determines